

**Title: FADE PRINTED DECORATIVE SHEETS AND METHODS AND APPARATUS
FOR MAKING THE SAME**

Abstract of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to multilayer decorative sheet comprising: (a) an
outer heat resistant carrier first carrier sheet, (b) a clear coat, which in one embodiment,
comprises a blend of a fluorocarbon polymer and an acrylic or methacrylic resin, coated
on the carrier sheet, (c) a tie coat layer on the clear coat layer, (d) fade print coat on the
tie coat layer, (e) an optional back coat on the print layer, (e) a pressure-sensitive
10 adhesive, and (f) a second carrier sheet adhered to the pressure-sensitive adhesive.
When used on a vehicle the graphic has an opaque portion, such as a metallic finish, at
the topside of the vehicle and the opacity fades over the graphic to clear, thereby
revealing the vehicle's color under the decorative sheet. The fading occurs across the
width of the graphic. In one embodiment, the fade is gradual and reveals little stark
15 changes in opacity. The present invention provides a decorative laminate which
provides a fade from one opacity to another wherein the sheet has a combination of
good durability, elongation, opacity, gloss and DOI levels and a defect-free surface.